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REMARKS

Applicants reply to the Final Office Action dated July 25, 2008, within 2 months of the mailing date. Thus, request an Advisory Action, if necessary. The Examiner rejects all pending claims. Applicants cancel claims 7, 8, 13, and 14 without prejudice to filing one or more claims having similar subject matter. Applicants add new claim 63. Support for the amendments and new claims may be found in the originally-filed specification, claims, and figures. No new matter has been introduced by these amendments and new claims. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the pending claims.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the interview held with Applicants' patent attorney David Nigro on August 21, 2008. Applicants also thank the Examiner for acknowledging that amending claim 1 to include, at least "a second layer comprised of metal...wherein said first metal layer and said second layer are in uniform, direct contact" would further differentiate the present claims over the cited references, and render the rejections moot.

Rejection based on 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1, 4, 6-7, 9-15, 18-19, 59-61

The Examiner rejects claims 1, 4, 6-7, 9-15, 18-19, 59-61 as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,025,283 to Roberts ("Roberts"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection as set forth below.

Roberts teaches a card that is made from a rubber or plastic layer with a thin layer of precious metal disposed on both an upper and lower surface of the rubber or plastic layer. See Abstract and Figure 3. The rubber or plastic layer thus forms the "core" of the Roberts card. The purpose of the Roberts card is to retain many of the physical properties of a traditional, plastic card, such as, for example, flexibility. See column 1, line 17 and column 65-67 and column 2 line 1. Roberts recites that precious metals include platinum, gold, and silver. See column 1, lines 47-49.

Applicants' claim 1 now includes, at least, "a second layer comprised of metal...wherein said first metal layer and said second layer are in uniform, direct contact." Roberts does not disclose or contemplate metal layers that are, at least, "in uniform, direct contact." Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is not anticipated by Roberts.

Dependent claims 2-4, 6, 8-12, 18-20 and 22, variously depend from independent claim 1, so Applicants assert that dependent claims 2-4, 6, 8-12, 18-20 and 22 are patentable for at least

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the same reasons for differentiating the independent claim 1, as well as in view of their own respective features. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 7, 8, 13, and 14 are now canceled. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully assert that this rejection is moot.

Rejection based on 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 8, 16-17

The Examiner rejects claims 16-17 as unpatentable over Roberts in view of U.S. Application Publication Number 2004/0121257 ("Kaminsky"). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

The deficiencies of Roberts are discussed above. The teachings of Kaminsky do not cure these deficiencies. Dependent claims 16-17 variously depend from independent claim 1, so Applicants assert that dependent claims 16-17 are patentable for at least the same reasons for differentiating the independent claim 1, as well as in view of their own respective features. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 8 is now canceled. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully assert that this rejection is moot.

Claims 8, 16-17, 20, 22, 54, 58, 62

The Examiner rejects claims 8, 16-17, 20, 22, 54, 58, 62 as unpatentable over Roberts in view of NPL publication NN86044723 ("NPL") and/or U.S. Application Publication Number 2005/0194453 by Conner ("Conner"). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

The deficiencies of Roberts are discussed above. The NPL discusses a stiffened card with an integrated circuit. See Title. As discussed in the Examiner Interview of August 21, 2008, Figure 2 of the NPL depicts two metal layers separated by an integrated circuit (label 12) and a "polyimide-like interconnect layer" (label 24). Further, the NPL discloses on page 4723 that the metal sheets "extend over the integrated circuit." In addition, as disclosed in the NPL on page 4724 approximately twenty lines from the top line, spacers may be used between the metal layers. The presence of any one of an integrated circuit, a "polyimide-like interconnect layer," or a spacer precludes the metal layers from being in, at least, "uniform, direct contact." Connor, as discussed in prior Replies to Office Actions, does not cure the deficiencies of Roberts, NPL, or combinations thereof.

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Dependent claims 16-17, 20, 22, 54, 58, 62 variously depend from independent claim 1, so Applicants assert that dependent claims 16-17, 20, 22, 54, 58, 62 are patentable for at least the same reasons for differentiating the independent claim 1, as well as in view of their own respective features. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn. Claim 8 is now canceled. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully assert that this rejection is moot.

Claim 21

The Examiner rejects claim 21 as unpatentable over Roberts in view U.S. Application Publication Number 2003/0202151 by Hinata ("Hinata"). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

The deficiencies of Roberts are discussed above. Hinata discloses a display device. See Title and Abstract. The teachings of Hinata do not cure the deficiencies of Roberts. Dependent claim 21 variously depends from independent claim 1, so Applicants assert that dependent claim 21 is patentable for at least the same reasons for differentiating the independent claim 1, as well as in view of its own respective features. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 25

The Examiner rejects claim 25 as unpatentable over Roberts in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,876,441 to Hara ("Hara"). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

The deficiencies of Roberts are discussed above. Hara discloses a calculator-type device. See Abstract, Figure 2. The teachings of Hara do not cure the deficiencies of Roberts. Dependent claim 25 variously depends from independent claim 1, so Applicants assert that dependent claim 25 is patentable for at least the same reasons for differentiating the independent claim 1, as well as in view of its own respective features. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

New Claims

New claim 63 variously depends from independent claim 1, so Applicants assert that new claim 63 is patentable for at least the same reasons for differentiating the independent claim 1, as well as in view of its own respective features. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully assert that claim 63 is allowable.

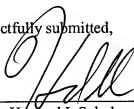
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Conclusion

In view of the above remarks and amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are allowable over the cited references. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the pending claims. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the Examiner's convenience, if that would help further prosecution of the subject application. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees, which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-2814. **This statement does NOT authorize charge of the issue fee.**

Date: 9/3/08

Respectfully submitted,

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